

Remarks & Arguments

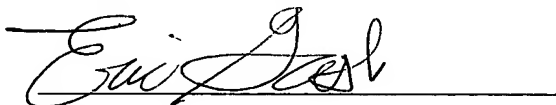
The present preliminary amendments incorporate the changes made in the prior case, US Application 10/113,526 filed March 28, 2002. The changes include the Preliminary Amendment filed September 17, 2002 and the Amendment and Response filed October 6, 2003. The claim numbering has also been amended to correct the informality noted in the Response to Restriction Requirement filed February 11, 2004. Finally, the specification has also been amended to include a cross-reference to parent application. In light of the nature and extent of the amendments, a substitute specification is also enclosed.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance and that action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required for this amendment, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 23-0085. In the event that an extension of time is required, or may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account 23-0085.

Respectfully submitted,

WAGNER, MURABITO & HAO, LLP

Dated: February 27, 2004



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